

REMARKS

Claims 8-11 are now pending in the application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection(s) in view of the remarks contained herein.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicants had previously submitted copies of the foreign patent documents and other documents in the parent Application No. 09/864,020 according to 35 U.S.C. §120. However, in order to expedite the process, Applicants are resubmitting copies of the references.

Applicants are also submitting a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement along with a copy of each reference, attached hereto.

NON-STATUTORY DOUBLE PATENTING

Claims 8-11 stand provisionally rejected under the judicially-created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 8, 10 and 11 of Patent No. 6,642,815. Applicants are submitting herewith a terminal disclaimer for addressing this rejection.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is

believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: June 10, 2004

By: Greg Stobbs
Gregory A. Stobbs
Reg. No. 28,764

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.
P.O. Box 828
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303
(248) 641-1600

GAS/kk